

8-14-1992

## Friday Report - Vol. 02, No. 02 - August 14, 1992

University of Massachusetts Boston

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### Recommended Citation

University of Massachusetts Boston, "Friday Report - Vol. 02, No. 02 - August 14, 1992" (1992). 1991-1996, *Friday Report*. Paper 22.  
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# The UMass/Boston Friday Report

Volume 2, Number 2  
August 14th, 1992

News and information about and for the  
University Community from the Chancellor's Office

## Bank of Boston Grant Helps Underwrite Program That Prepares Minorities for Management Careers

The University recently received a \$15,000 grant from the Bank of Boston to help underwrite a program that provides academic guidance and support to minority students enrolled in the University's College of Management. The money will go to the four-year-old Educational Opportunity Program (EOP), which furnishes African-American, Hispanic, Cape Verdean and Native American students with a range of services designed to help them succeed in college and prepare for rewarding professional careers in business management. The program furnishes guidance counselors and tutors, and sponsors seminars in such topics as study skills and time management. It also helps arrange internships for undergraduates, and through a job placement network, assists graduates in launching their careers. Students interested in attending graduate school can also receive help in completing their applications and in preparing for entrance exams. Students involved in EOP are interns at such businesses and institutions as Bank of Boston, Fidelity Investments, and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Several former UMass/Boston students have found full-time jobs where they once were interns. Some 45 minority students so far have completed the Educational Opportunity Program, and approximately 200 more are currently enrolled. According to **Director Martha Welch**, the impetus to establish the Equal Opportunity Program at UMass/Boston came from members of the College of Management's Corporate Board of Advisors, who were eager to increase the number of minority women and men employed in management positions throughout the Greater Boston area.

## Middle, High School Teachers Attend Workshop to Improve Science Curricula

Science teachers from middle and high schools throughout the Greater Boston area came to the campus last month to participate in a three-week workshop designed to enhance their scientific knowledge and upgrade science courses at their schools. Funding for the program came from a \$394,000 grant which the National Science Foundation (NSF) awarded to UMB's Center for the Advancement of Teaching in the Sciences. The center promotes cooperative ventures among industry, government agencies, college and university science departments, and public school systems. Its mission is to offer support and training for science teachers. Members of the University Community involved in the workshop are Biology Professor **William G. Hagar**; Professor **Walter E. Weibrecht**, chairman of the University's chemistry department; and Education Professor **Maurice J. Eash**. The workshop included presentations by representatives from Boston Edison, Clean Harbors, ICI, Instrumentation Laboratories, Integrated Genetics and the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority. As part of the NSF grant, a series of follow-up seminars will be held throughout the 1992-93 academic year to review and measure the effectiveness of the workshop.

**Campus Notes** -- The Urban Harbors Institute has been chosen by the World Bank to give 10 high-level environmental officials from Bulgaria, Turkey and



Roumania an eight-day orientation on how U.S. state and federal agencies manage the coastal zone environment. The three nations involved border the Black Sea, a heavily polluted body of water. The officials hope to return to their countries with a better understanding of what rules and regulations their governments must promulgate to eliminate the pollution. • **Leon Zurawicki** (Marketing) spent May and July lecturing at the National University of the Province of Buenos Aires in Tandil, Argentina, under a Fulbright grant. • Following the first year of its operation, the Admission Guaranteed Program has enrolled 125 students from Dorchester, South Boston and Jeremiah E. Burke high schools. The program helps students prepare for the rigors of college life, and is designed to promote both access and a higher retention rate once they come to the UMB campus.

• Management Professor **Vivien Schmidt** received an award from the French government for her book *Democratizing France: The Political and Administrative History of Decentralization*, published by Cambridge University Press (1990). She was honored last spring during a conference in Marseilles sponsored by the Institute for Decentralization. The ceremony was aired on French television. "It was a bit like the Oscars night for people who are interested in the decentralization of French government," notes Professor Schmidt. She spent five years working on the 400-page volume, which is scheduled for publication in French. • Geography Professor **Jack Looney** this month is leading a group of 10 Boston high school students on a combined clean-up and environmental research tour of Long and Spectacle Islands in Boston Harbor. Using donations amounting to \$10,000 from five corporations to fund their activities, Professor Looney and his students are on the islands from Mondays through Thursdays. They spend a few hours scooping up trash, and devote the rest of the day to investigating coastal erosion, wave formations, tidal pool ecology, and coliform bacteria level in the harbor. The students hauled 500 gallons of trash from Long Island in their first three days. • **Charles A. Bowsheer**, comptroller general of the United States, was the guest speaker at an August 13th dinner in the Chancellor's Conference Room sponsored by the McCormack Institute and the Auditors Institute.

## **Chukyo Students Visit University To Study English Language And American Culture**

Thirty students from UMB's sister institution, Chukyo University in Japan, spent three weeks this summer at the campus studying English and learning about American culture. This is the third consecutive year that the Division of Continuing Education has run such a program for students from Chukyo. The visit this year by the Japanese students is one outcome of an agreement the University and Chukyo recently signed to encourage faculty and student exchanges between the two institutions. The two universities will also engage in other cooperative programs to promote the sharing of language, culture and research. Each morning the Japanese students commuted from Curry College in Milton, where they were living, to the Harbor Campus. They took courses in the Graduate Program in Bilingual Education/English as a Second Language, and then spent afternoons exploring Boston and its surroundings accompanied by UMB faculty and staff. Among the attractions they visited were Old Sturbridge Village, Nantucket Island, Fenway Park, a jazz music festival at Curry College, the JFK Library, and historic sites in Salem and Newport, Rhode Island. The visit by the Japanese students was the subject of a report on Channel 7's six o'clock newscast.